

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

[c01] A method of providing communications services, comprising the steps of:

discovering multiple communications networks available to a client communications device;

communicating a request for communications service from the client communications device to a service provider, the service provider providing access to at least one of the multiple communications networks;

negotiating with the at least one service provider for access to at least one of the multiple communications networks; and

receiving communications service from the at least one service provider via at least one of the multiple communications networks.

[c02] A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of discovering multiple communications networks comprises discovering at least one of i) a wireline network available to the client communications device and ii) a wireless network available to a client communications device.

[c03] A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of discovering multiple communications networks comprises discovering, on demand, the multiple communications networks available to a client communications device.

[c04] A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of communicating the request for communications service to multiple service providers, each service provider providing access to at least one of the multiple communications networks.

- [c05] A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of communicating the request for communications service to the multiple service providers comprises communicating the request to at least one of i) a wireline network service provider and ii) a wireless network service provider.
- [c06] A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of communicating the request for communications service to the multiple service providers comprises communicating the request to at least one of i) a service provider providing access to a cellular network, ii) a service provider providing access to an I.E.E.E. 802 wireless network, iii) a service provider providing access to a radio frequency (RF) wireless network, iv) a service provider providing access to an Industrial, Scientific, and Medical (ISM) wireless network, v) a service provider providing access to an infrared (IR) wireless network, and vi) a service provider providing access to a wireless network using another portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.
- [c07] A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of negotiating with the at least one service provider comprises receiving a bid from the at least one service provider to fulfill the request for communications service.
- [c08] A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of negotiating with the at least one service provider comprises communicating a preferred scenario of segmentation, dispersion, and assemblage of electronic data when fulfilling the request for communications service.
- [c09] A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of negotiating with the at least one service provider comprises communicating a competitive indication of the multiple communications networks that are available to the client communications device.
- [c10] A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of negotiating with the at least one service provider comprises communicating at least one of i) a price above which

communications service will be denied, ii) a date by which the request for communications service should be fulfilled, iii) a time by which the request for communications service should be fulfilled, and iv) formatting for the requested communications service.

[c11] A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of negotiating with the at least one service provider comprises receiving at least one of i) a price for utilizing the at least one multiple communications networks, ii) a date that the request for communications service will be fulfilled, and iii) a time that the request for communications service will be fulfilled.

[c12] A method of providing communications services, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device, the request for communications service requesting communications service from a communications network available to the client communications device;

ascertaining a preferred scenario of segmentation, dispersion, and assemblage of electronic data to fulfill the request for communications service;

developing a bid to utilize the communications network to fulfill the request for communications service; and

communicating the bid to the client communications device,

wherein the client communications device may then accept or deny the bid.

[c13] A method according to claim 12, wherein the step of receiving the request for communications service comprises receiving an indication of multiple communications networks that are available to the client communications device.

- [c14] A method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of determining that multiple communications networks are available to the client communications device.
- [c15] A method according to claim 12, wherein the step of receiving the request for communications service comprises receiving at least one of i) a price above which any bid will be denied, ii) a date by which the request for communications service should be fulfilled, and iii) a time by which the request for communications service should be fulfilled.
- [c16] A method according to claim 12, wherein the step of communicating the bid to the client communications device comprises communicating at least one of i) a price for utilizing the communications network, ii) a date that the request for communications service will be fulfilled, and iii) a time that the request for communications service will be fulfilled.
- [c17] A method according to claim 12, wherein the step of ascertaining the preferred scenario of segmentation, dispersion, and assemblage of electronic data comprises assessing an availability of network routing to fulfill the request for communications service.
- [c18] A method according to claim 12, wherein the step of ascertaining the preferred scenario of segmentation, dispersion, and assemblage of electronic data comprises assessing an availability of network bandwidth to fulfill the request for communications service.
- [c19] A method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving an acceptance of the bid to utilize the communications network to fulfill the request for communications service.
- [c20] A computer program product, comprising:

a computer-readable medium; and

a Analysis Module stored on the computer-readable medium, the Analysis Module discovering multiple communications networks available to a client communications device, the Analysis Module communicating a request for communications service from the client communications device to at least one service provider, the at least one service provider providing access to at least one of the multiple communications networks, the Analysis Module negotiating with the at least one service provider for access to at least one of the multiple communications networks, and the Analysis Module receiving communications service from the at least one service provider via at least one of the multiple communications networks.